

Congressman Edwards believes our families, businesses and national economy deserve a low cost and reliable energy supply. That means ensuring stability in the prices we pay at the pump for gasoline to the utility rates we pay when we turn on the light switch at home. Congress and the Administration must work together in a bipartisan way toward comprehensive energy solutions that diversify our energy sources, increase American production, and reduce our dependence on foreign oil.

Chet supports a broad, diversified supply of American energy, including:

- Drilling for more oil and gas in the Outer Continental Shelf and Alaska
- More renewable energy research
- Expanding the use of nuclear power
- Increasing conservation incentives

When gas prices soared to over four dollars a gallon, Chet supported releasing 70 million barrels of oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR), to immediately expand available oil supplies, send a strong message to oil speculators, and help reduce the record prices

### **American Energy for American Jobs, Families, and Business**

- Chet supports and has voted for everything from more oil and gas drilling in the Outer Continental Shelf and Alaska to more renewable energy research and nuclear power to conservation incentives.
- Chet knows that vast majority of our nation's energy comes from natural gas, oil, coal and nuclear sources. Many Americans would be surprised to know that 20 percent of our nation's energy comes from nuclear energy.
- Chet supports encouraging renewable energy sources but will fight to ensure that traditional forms of energy, like natural gas and oil, continue to operate under fair and responsible tax structures that encourage American energy production.
- America has the largest supply of coal reserves in the world and Chet supports continued research into Carbon Capture and Sequestration technologies so that we can responsibly utilize this important American resource.

- Chet has supported the DRILL Act, which will provide an estimated 10.6 billion barrels of oil found in the Alaska National Petroleum Reserve, and encourage oil companies to drill for oil and natural gas on the 68 million acres of federally leased land they have not yet explored. If we do these two things alone, U.S. domestic oil production could nearly double, greatly reducing our dependence on foreign sources of oil.

### **Ending Financial Speculation that Inflates Energy Prices**

- Chet has voted on numerous occasions to curtail excessive financial speculation in energy markets which experts say inflate oil and gasoline to prices 20-30% above the laws of supply and demand.
- Chet voted to order the Commodity Futures and Trading Commission to curb immediately and eliminate excessive speculation, price distortion, sudden or unreasonable fluctuations or unwarranted changes in prices.
- Chet voted to close the "London Loophole" which allows energy traders to execute transactions in the US and Britain, but are only regulated on the US portion of the transaction.

### **Responsible Leasing Policy**

- Chet voted for "Use it or Lose It" legislation that forces current holders of oil or natural gas exploration leases to "diligently develop" those leases or relinquish their leases before they could receive new leases from the Interior Department.

### **Price Gouging Prevention**

- Chet voted to prevent price gouging for fuels in areas experiencing an "energy emergency," and sets criminal and civil penalties for engaging in such a practice.

Any thoughts? Comments? Questions? Let us know what you [think](#).

If you would like to receive periodic e-mail alerts on agriculture and trade issues, please sign up for our [e-mail newsletter](#).